WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An asphalt composition comprising:

asphalt;

a rubber or elastomeric polymer present in an amount no greater than about 12% by weight of said asphalt composition; and

at least one crosslinkable component present in an amount of about 0.05 % to about 3% of said asphalt composition, wherein said component is selected from the group consisting of a bismaleimide and a bismaleimide in combination with a difunctional crosslinkable monomer.

2. The asphalt composition according to Claim 1, wherein said difunctional crosslinkable monomer is selected from the group consisting of divinylbenzene, diallylphthalate, diallymaleate, ethoxylated bisphenol A dimethacrylate, polyethylene glycol dimethacrylate, polyethylene glycol diacrylate, polybutadiene dimethacrylate, and combinations thereof, and wherein said difunctional crosslinkable monomer is present in an amount of about 0.1% to about 3% by weight of said asphalt composition.

3. The asphalt composition according to Claim 1, further comprising a polymerizable monomer solvent in which said crosslinkable component is dissolved prior to addition to said asphalt.

4. The asphalt composition according to Claim 3, wherein said solvent is selected from the group consisting of styrene, N-vinylpyridine, vinyl pyrrolidone, and combinations thereof.

5. The asphalt composition according to Claim 1, further comprising a free radical initiator.

6. The asphalt composition according to Claim 5, wherein said free radical initiator is selected from the group consisting of peroxides, hydroperoxides, peroxyesters, and azo compounds.

7. A method of treating a polymer modified asphalt composition, comprising the step of adding at least one crosslinkable component to the modified asphalt composition,

wherein the crosslinkable component is selected from the group consisting of a bismaleimide and a bismaleimide in combination with a difunctional crosslinkable monomer.

8. The method according to Claim 7, further comprising the step of dissolving the at least one crosslinkable component in a polymerizable monomer solvent prior to the step of adding the at least one crosslinkable component to the modified asphalt composition.

9. A method of treating an asphalt composition, comprising the steps of:

heating the asphalt;

adding a rubber or elastomeric polymer to the heated asphalt; and

adding at least one crosslinkable component to the heated asphalt, thereby curing the rubber or elastomeric polymer,

wherein the crosslinkable component is selected from the group consisting of a bismaleimide and a bismaleimide in combination with a difunctional crosslinkable monomer.

10. The method according to Claim 9, wherein the step of adding a rubber or elastomeric polymer to the heated asphalt further comprises the steps of:

dissolving the rubber or elastomeric polymer in a polymerizable monomer solvent to form a polymer solution; and

adding the solution to the heated asphalt.

11. The method according to Claim 10, wherein the step of adding at least one crosslinkable component to the heated asphalt further comprises the step of adding the at least one crosslinkable component into the polymer solution prior to adding the solution to the heated asphalt.

12. The method according to Claim 9, further comprising the step of adding a free radical initiator to the asphalt composition.

13. The method according to Claim 9, further comprising the step of adding an aromatic oil to the heated asphalt to improve low temperature performance of the asphalt.

14. The method according to Claim 13, wherein the aromatic oil is chosen from furfural extraction products.